



FACT SHEET

Unaffiliated Candidates 2014 Election

1) How can unaffiliated candidates qualify to be listed as a choice on the General Election ballot? ([NCGS §§ 163-1, 163-122, 163-209](#))

A candidate who seeks to have his or her name printed on the General Election ballot as an unaffiliated candidate can submit petitions to an elections office. How many signatures are required, the elections office that receives these materials, and the due date is determined by the type of office.

- **U.S. Senate, Governor, and other statewide offices:** Verified petitions are due to the State Board of Elections by noon on the last Friday in June preceding the General Election, **Friday, June 27, 2014**. This petition must be signed by North Carolina voters equaling 2% of the total number of voters who voted in the most recent General Election for Governor [**89,366 signatures**]. No later than 5:00 p.m. on **Thursday, June 12, 2014**, the fifteenth day preceding the date petitions are due to be filed with the State Board of Elections, the petition pages must be submitted to the County Board of Elections office in the county where the signatures were gathered. Verification will be completed within two weeks from the date the petitions are presented.
- **U.S. House, judgeships, District Attorney, or North Carolina House or Senate for districts that cover more than one county:** Petitions are due to the State Board of Elections by noon on the last Friday in June preceding the General Election, **Friday, June 27, 2014**. This petition must be signed by a number of registered voters in the congressional district equaling 4% of the total number of registered voters in the congressional district as of January 1 of the election year. No later than 5:00 p.m. on **Thursday, June 12, 2014**, the fifteenth day preceding the date petitions are due to be filed with the State Board of Elections, the petition pages must be submitted to the County Board of Elections office in the county where the signatures were gathered. Verification will be completed within two weeks from the date the petitions are presented.
- **State House and State Senate in districts the lie within more than one county:** Petitions are due to the State Board of Elections by noon on the last Friday in June preceding the General Election, **Friday, June 27, 2014**. This petition must be signed by

a numbered of registered voters in the district equaling 4% of the total number of registered voters in the district as of January 1 of the election year. No later than 5:00 p.m. on **Thursday, June 12, 2014**, the fifteenth day preceding the date petitions are due to be filed with the State Board of Elections, the petition pages must be submitted to the County Board of Elections office in the county where the signatures were gathered. Verification will be completed within two weeks from the date the petitions are presented.

- **County offices, and State House and Senate in districts that lie only within one county:** Petitions are due to the County Board of Elections by noon on the last Friday in June preceding the general election, **Friday, June 27, 2014**. This petition must be signed by a numbered of registered voters in the district equaling 4% of the total number of registered voters in the district as of January 1 of the election year. Verification will be completed within two weeks from the date the petitions are presented. The petitions are submitted to the County Board of Elections office. First, the signatures must be submitted to the County Board of Elections offices to be verified. Petition forms must be received by the County Board of Elections office by 5:00 p.m. on **Thursday, June 12, 2014**, which is 15 days before the final documentation is due to the County Board of Elections. The County Board of Elections office(s) will verify the petitions.

Residency and registered voter status in the applicable jurisdiction or district is required, and certain offices also have other requirements involving age or duration of residency.

2) Is there a filing fee to run as an unaffiliated candidate? ([NCGS §§ 163-107](#))

Yes. Generally, the filing fee is 1% of the annual salary of the elected office.

3) When is the General Election? ([NCGS §§ 163-1\(c\)](#))

The Tuesday after the first Monday in November — **Tuesday, November 4, 2014**.

4) What are the campaign reporting requirements? ([NCGS §163-278.9](#))

The Campaign Reporting Act requires financial disclosure of all political activities. Reports are filed with the State Board of Elections campaign reporting office. The time of filing of these reports, and the types of reports will vary by the type of campaign. Every candidate will be responsible for their compliance with campaign reporting laws. A Candidate Campaign Finance Manual is available online on the [State Board of Elections' website](#).

The law requires that the treasurer of every campaign committee receives training in handling campaign finance reports and law. This can be accomplished online or in-person at numerous training sessions offered by the State Board of Elections.

IMPORTANT: An organizational report must be filed with the appropriate elections office within ten days of becoming a candidate. For these purposes, “becoming a candidate” includes taking positive action for the purpose of obtaining nomination or being elected, soliciting or receiving contributions, making expenditures to enhance a campaign, or filing a notice of candidacy, whichever comes first. The report can be found online on the [State Board of Elections’ website](#). Your local County Board of Elections is also available to help.

5) Are there other filings required of certain county candidates? ([NCGS § 138A-22](#))

The State Government Ethics Act requires that certain “covered persons” file a statement of economic interest at the time they file for office. Currently, Clerk of Court candidates would be considered such “covered persons.” As to who is “covered” please refer to the State Ethics Commission. You can obtain copies of this candidate statement of economic interest form from the State Ethics Commission or your local County Board of Elections.